



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5796

February Session, 2008

* _____ HB05796APP _____ 040108 _____ *

**AN ACT CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE FEDERAL SPECIFIED
LOW-INCOME MEDICARE BENEFICIARY, THE QUALIFIED
MEDICARE BENEFICIARY AND THE QUALIFYING INDIVIDUAL
PROGRAMS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (f) of section 17b-492 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2008*):

4 (f) The Commissioner of Social Services may be the authorized
5 representative of a ConnPACE applicant or recipient for purposes of:
6 [enrolling] (1) Enrolling in a Medicare Part D plan, [or] (2) submitting
7 an application to the Social Security Administration to obtain the low
8 income subsidy benefit provided under Public Law 108-173, the
9 Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of
10 2003, or (3) facilitating the enrollment in a Medicare savings program
11 of any such applicant or recipient who elects to participate in said
12 program. The applicant or recipient shall have the opportunity to
13 select a Medicare Part D plan and shall be notified of such opportunity
14 by the commissioner. The applicant or recipient, prior to selecting a
15 Medicare Part D plan, shall have the opportunity to consult with the
16 commissioner, or the commissioner's designated agent, concerning the
17 selection of a Medicare Part D plan that best meets the prescription
18 drug needs of such applicant or recipient. In the event that such

19 applicant or recipient does not select a Medicare Part D plan within a
 20 reasonable period of time, as determined by the commissioner, the
 21 commissioner shall enroll the applicant or recipient in a Medicare Part
 22 D plan designated by the commissioner in accordance with said act.
 23 The applicant or recipient shall appoint the commissioner as such
 24 applicant's or recipient's representative for the purpose of appealing
 25 any denial of Medicare Part D benefits and for any other purpose
 26 allowed under said act and deemed necessary by the commissioner.

27 Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2008) Beginning with the fiscal year
 28 ending June 30, 2009, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the
 29 Commissioner of Social Services shall increase income disregards used
 30 to determine eligibility by the Department of Social Services for the
 31 federal Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary, the Qualified
 32 Medicare Beneficiary and the Qualifying Individual Programs,
 33 administered in accordance with the provisions of 42 USC 1396d(p), by
 34 an amount that equalizes the income levels used to determine
 35 eligibility for said programs with income levels used to determine
 36 eligibility for the ConnPACE program under subsection (a) of section
 37 17b-492 of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2008	17b-492(f)
Sec. 2	July 1, 2008	New section

HS *Joint Favorable C/R*

APP

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*